

A TRAGEDY OF LOVE, HYPNOTISM AND POISONED CANDY.



MISS OLLIE HORLOCKER

The Murder
Trial of
Pretty
Miss
Horlocker,
a
Social
Belle,
for
Trying to
Poison
Her
Employer's
Wife
Presents
the
Novel
Defense
That She
Acted
Under
Hypnotic
Influence.



MISS HORLOCKER, christened Viola Horlocker, but her sisters called her "Ollie" from the first. That was in the mountain town of Boulder, Col., nearly twenty-eight years ago.

Her father was a wealthy miner, whose fortune evaporated as many fortunes do in the rarefied atmosphere of the mining town. There were four sisters. One of them married Mr. George Phillips and went to live in Iowa. Zola, another sister, became a singer and came to New York and sang in the churches and at concerts and receptions.

Mrs. Horlocker moved to Hastings, Neb., with her three daughters, Viola, Bertha and Anna.

Viola was the oldest, and as such it devolved upon her to take out the slender family income. She studied law a little and learned stenography, and so fitted herself for a lawyer's clerk. She entered the office of Morey & Tibbets. It was the best position of the kind in Hastings. Both members of the firm were distinguished lawyers. Charles Morey had been City Attorney for years.

The senior member of the firm was handsome, an excellent pleader and a man of magnetic and social gifts. The junior member was not so well favored as to face and figure. He was a quiet man and more able as counsel than pleader. The senior member liked the new clerk from the first. The junior member did not. Miss Horlocker returned the feeling of her employers in kind.

She was intelligent. She knew the law very well "for a woman." She had agreeable manners and she made a handsome picture as she sat at her desk by the west window, where the afternoon sunlight caressed the bronze of her hair and the rose of her cheek and the snow of her fingers. Even Judge Tibbets had to admit that, though he always qualified it by adding that her temperament was a trifle impatient.

"She never lets anything stand in her way if she wants a thing," he said.

The Misses Horlocker soon became popular in Hastings, and Miss Ollie was the most admired of the trio. Social barriers are not so high in the West as in the East. They do not separate the working from the leisure classes, nor the employer from the employee. So it came about easily in democratic Hastings that Miss Horlocker became the friend and confidante of Mr. and Mrs. Morey, and that her social position was equal to theirs. Latterly her health was not good, and she had withdrawn somewhat from society. Still she was easily the most popular girl in Hastings until last April.

Miss Horlocker was an enthusiastic bicyclist. Mrs. Morey was not. It happened naturally that Mr. Horlocker, who was also an enthusiastic cyclist, should be the young woman's escort in the cycling parties that sped over the prairies about Hastings.

Sometimes Mr. Morey sauntered homeward with his clerk after a day in court. He said he liked to talk to some one who understood his profession and his aims. Sometimes he leaned a long while on the Horlocker gate, and sometimes sat for a long time on the Horlocker veranda.

"But I always told my wife," said Mr. Morey, in profuse explanation afterward, "and she laughed and said she didn't care."

Miss Horlocker asked to Mr. Morey

How Hypnotism and Crime May Co-operate.

BY DR. CARLETON SIMON, NEUROLOGIST.

MISS HORLOCKER'S claim that she attempted murder while under hypnotic influence may be well founded, although I doubt it. But, granted that she was hypnotized, she is as guilty as though she committed the act in her normal state. A person will do in the hypnotic state only what he will do in the normal state.

Assuming that Miss Horlocker was under hypnotic influence when she attempted murder, it was merely proof that she had considered it while in a normal state. In other words, she had held, while in the normal state, the mental attitude of a murderer.

It would be not only dramatic, but practicable, to put the prisoner so under hypnotic influence that she might rehearse the scenes of the crime, as did Sir Henry Irving in that thrilling drama, "The Bells." But even that evidence would not be infallible, for a subject may die when in the hypnotic state as well as in the normal.

I have known of but two crimes that were committed during the hypnotic state, and both perpetrators were old criminals.

Miss Horlocker was next seen at the Boston Hotel. She ordered a luncheon, but did not taste the food. Instead she leaned her elbow on the table and her head on her hand. Acquaintances asked if she were ill, and she only smiled in answer and tried to drink a glass of water; then left the room.

At just that moment a tragedy was being enacted at the Lincoln flats.

Mrs. Morey, on returning to her studio, found a box on the floor near her door. "Miss Kirby" was the name engraved on the card. On the other side was scribbled, "Mrs. Morey, Some Home-Made Sweets."

The lawyer's wife put the gift upon the table, and when callers came she passed the box about. Some declined. A few tasted, but Mrs. Morey and her friend, Mrs. Fred Gaslin, ate freely of the candy. In a few minutes both were taken violently ill.

"They will recover," said the doctor, "because they have had an overdose. There is enough arsenic in that box of candy to kill twenty persons."

When Druggist Farrens heard this he remembered that three days before he had sold Miss Horlocker 900 grains of arsenic. She said she needed it all to poison rats.

"A queer coincidence," thought Druggist Farrens. At the same time Druggist McEllin was recalling that he had sold Miss Horlocker an ounce of arsenic the week before, and he, too, said: "A queer coincidence!"

Ollie Horlocker talked a great deal about the crime, and one day when a man said: "I think the fiend is a woman, and that she will soon be found," she faltered.

When she learned that she was suspected of the attempted murder she fled to Sheldon, Ia., and while hiding there tried to kill herself by taking poison.

She was brought back and waived examination. Her lawyer, Judge Hagan, pleaded "not guilty" for her. She did not say a word and did not once raise her head. She was released on a bond of \$5,000. Her mother said a great deal about "Ollie always having been queer and subject to spells." She took her to the Oak Lawn Sanitarium, at Jacksonville, Ill. She will leave there in time to attend the trial at Hastings, September 25.

Judge Hagan announced in May that the plea would be insanity. He has decided now that it shall be hypnotism.

Ollie Horlocker declares that she was controlled by another person's will when she sent the candy, and that she has no distinct recollection of what happened. She will not tell the name of the man who hypnotized her, but, of course, it is not difficult for the neighbors to guess who she is aiming at.

It is interesting to hear the differing views of two persons who know Ollie Horlocker well.

District Attorney James McCreary, whose duty it is to prosecute her, says: "I am firmly convinced that this woman is guilty of a most blood-thirsty and deliberate attempt to murder, and I shall do everything within the line of my duty to the State to send her to the penitentiary."

Dr. Cromwell, the superintendent of the Oak Lawn Sanitarium, says:

"During her stay here she has shown herself to be a sweet, modest girl. I believe she is unfortunate and I intend to stand by her through thick and thin. I will go with her to Hastings and will be present at her preliminary hearing, which will be resumed on September 25. I will probably be a witness in her behalf, but I cannot speak yet of the character of my testimony. When she came here she was subject to attacks of hysteria and was extremely nervous. She has improved, but is certainly not a healthy girl mentally or physically."

And now the man who inspired the fatal infatuation has spoken. Charles F. Morey refused to take any action against the girl. It was District Attorney McCreary who took the initial step. Mr. Morey does what is necessary in every trial, supplies a motive.

"I will be perfectly candid with you and acknowledge my relations with Miss Horlocker were not the same as those of my partner, Judge Tibbets. Matters had become more confidential between us, but there had been nothing which was not known to my wife. Miss Horlocker's home life was not congenial. She craved sympathy. I gave it and was foolish to do so. I told her we must stop talking about her private affairs, as we had been doing, because it had already resulted in comment. She protested, saying I had been such a comfort to her, and I had no right to deprive her of this comfort so long as no one was injured. I believe she was the victim of an infatuation."

"In fact, she told my wife that very thing. She often hinted at suicide, but only once openly avowed her intentions. Before this act I would have said she was perfectly sane, but now I cannot help thinking she was not. The act must be attributed either to a desire to get Mrs. Morey out of the way or to avenge some fancied wrong."

Miss Horlocker no longer denies the deed. She speaks often of the "power she could not resist."

VICTORIA'S WEDDING PRESENT TO HER FAVORITE DAUGHTER PRINCESS BEATRICE.

THE wedding present of Queen Victoria to her favorite daughter is here illustrated for the first time.

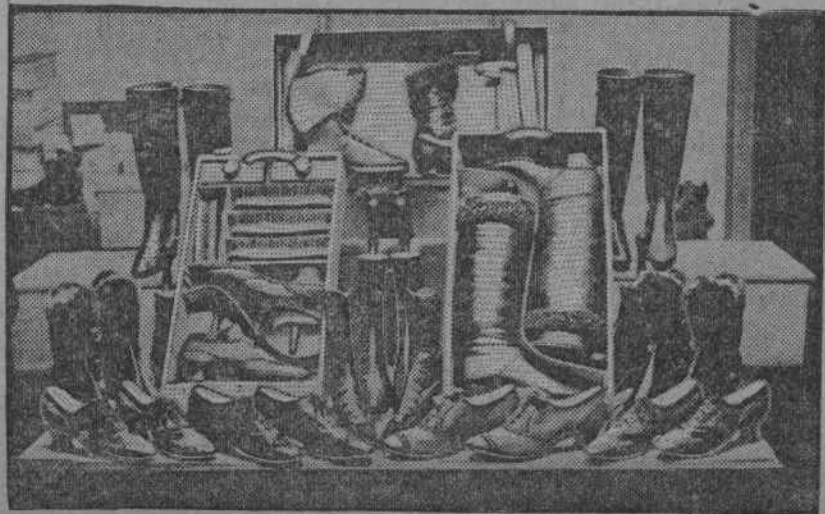
It was an enormous collection of boots made for every possible occasion.

This favorite daughter was the Princess Beatrice. She was also the youngest and the last to get married. It was long expected that she would remain a spinster in order to continue to be a companion to her mother, but, to everybody's surprise, she married Prince Henry of Battenberg.

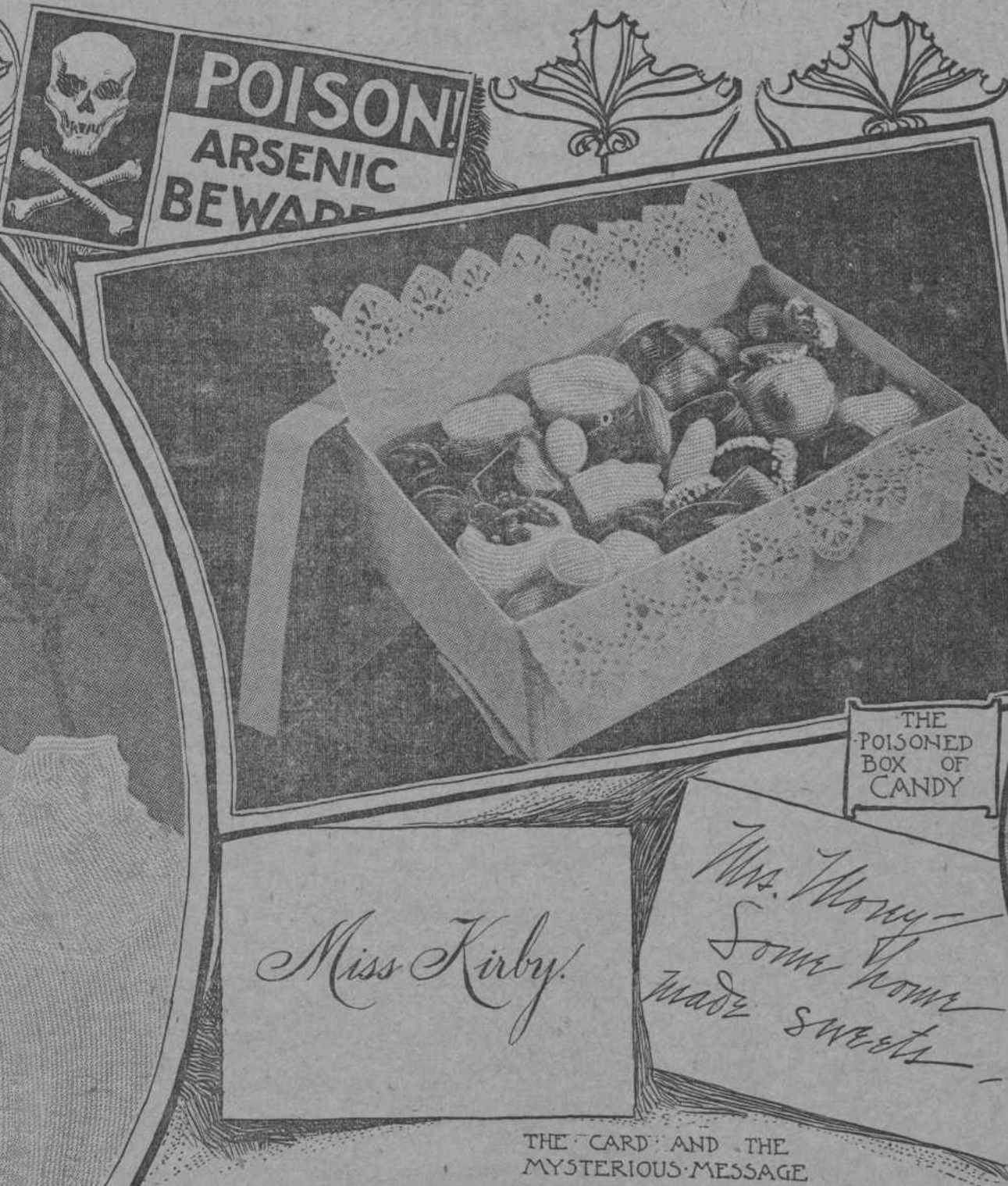
The Queen's present shows her eminently wise and practical nature. There is no material possession so conducive to happiness and comfort as a large supply of good well-made shoes. They make a favorable foundation for a happy married life.

The boots and shoes presented to the Princess Beatrice by her august mother were packed in boxes specially made for them. Six pairs of the same kind were packed in each box. Trees were supplied for all the heavy boots and shoes. There were all kinds of riding boots, and high boots for very cold weather, made with very loose tops, into which wool can be stuffed, and finished with beautiful embroidery. Beautifully embroidered satin and silk ball slippers were included in the collection.

The walking shoes have extra thick soles and round toes. The Queen has no sympathy with pointed toes or high heels. So regardless is she of fashion herself that



THE FINE COLLECTION OF BOOTS PRESENTED TO PRINCESS BEATRICE BY HER MOTHER.



THE CARD AND THE MYSTERIOUS MESSAGE.



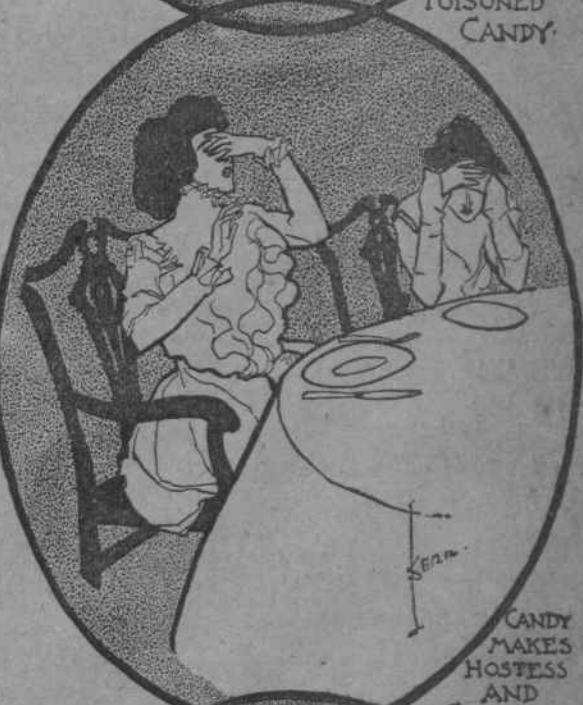
MISS HORLOCKER BICYCLING WITH HER EMPLOYER.



BUYS ARSENIC FOR RATS.



MRS. MOREY FINDS POISONED CANDY.



CANDY MAKES HOSTESS AND CALLERS ILL.



MISS HORLOCKER OVERTHROWN BY HER DEED.

EPISODES IN THE CAREER OF MISS HORLOCKER.